

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application. No. : 09/227,389 Confirmation No. 8371

Applicant : Lavian, et al. Filed : 01/08/1999

TC/A.U. : 2665

Examiner : Toan D. Nguyen

Docket No. : 082771.P347

Customer No. : 8791

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Being filed concurrently with a continuing application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

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